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OCT 21 1924 ✓

✓ GREATER THAN MARRIAGE ✓

✓ Photoplay in 7 reels ✓

✓ From the novel JOAN THURSDAY

by Louis Joseph Vance ✓ ✓

✓ ✓ *Direction and Screen play*

Directed by Victor Hugo Halperin ✓

Author of the photoplay (under section 62)

~~Vitagraph Company of America of U.S.~~

Romania Picture Inc. of New York ✓

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Synopsis: "Greater Than Marriage,"

Picturized from the novel "Joan Thursday,"
by Louis Joseph Vance.

Director: Victor Hugo Halperin

Seven Reel Comedy-Drama

Joan Thursday, daughter of a once-famous actress, cherishes similar ambitions for a stage career. This ambition is opposed by her father, and the quarrel between them results in her leaving home, without money, to seek the aid of a friend, Mazie de Noovan. At the latter's boarding house, Joan is sheltered from the rain by John Masters, a playwright. When he learns that Joan is penniless and that Mazie is not expected back that night, Masters gives up his room to ~~Ma~~ Joan.

In the weeks that follow, Joan makes a precarious living by typing Masters' plays - while she boards with Mazie. She falls in love with Masters, and the latter feels a similar urge, despite the fact that he is already engaged to Venetia, an heiress.

Joan gets a theatrical engagement with a vaudeville partner named Charlie Guard, and their sketch was written by Masters. Masters' Aunt Helena invites him to a week-end, and Masters persuades her to invite Joan also.

At the week-end party, Joan meets Vincent Marbridge, backer of theatrical offerings. Marbridge is also a rival for the affections of Venetia. Masters and Venetia quarrel over Joan's presence, and Jona, overhearing, is crushed. Later Marbridge elopes with Venetia - and when Masters learns of this, he is glad since it leaves him free to offer himself to Joan. He arrives at the theatre to witness the sketch, but he never sees it since Guard is drunk and the act is cancelled. Masters proposes to Joan, is accepted - despite the fact that Joan does not promise to give up her stage aspirations. Masters opposes them bitterly.

Their married life is happy, until Masters is forced to go to California to attend the rehearsals of his new play. Joan begs to be permitted to go on the stage, but he forbids it. At the railway station, they meet Marbridge and his bride, returning from their honeymoon, and Marbridge learns that Joan is being left alone.

Marbridge calls on Joan and persuades her to accept the leading role in a new show he is backing. To make this possible, Marbridge throws over Nella Cardow, famous actresses, to whose apartment Marbridge has a key.

Joan's mother dies, - begging Joan not to sacrifice love for a stage career; but Joan plunges into the life and the opening performance of the show approaches. Masters' play has failed in the West and he heads home disappointed.

On the night of the premiere, Joan scores an instant success in her show. Marbridge hints that she should be grateful to him for making her success possible. She eludes him, and reaches home to confront her husband who has learned of her broken promise. He rebukes her, and on giving her the choice between his love and her art - leaves her.

Joan becomes famous, but without the companionship of Masters, finds it futile. Mazie attaches herself to Joan as a press agent, even to getting her a male "maid" and staging a bath in near-beer for publicity's sake.

Masters, embittered, is a failure, until he submits a play to Goldman, the producer of Joan's show. Goldman sees tremendous possibilities in Masters' play. The play deals with woman's true vocation in life - showing that wifehood, motherhood and love are greater than any other career she might seek. Goldman accepts the play on condition that Joan play the lead; but Masters, still bitter, refuses. Goldman gets him to consider.

Nella Cardow, vengeful, goes to Mrs. Marbridge, tells her of her husband's habits and takes Mrs. Marbridge to Joan's apartments to prove that Marbridge is unfaithful. Marbridge, meantime, is at Joan's apartment, trying to effect payment for his efforts. Joan tries to throw herself from the balcony of the house, but Marbridge pulls her back. His wife and Nella confront him, but he defies them and carries the unconscious Joan to her bedroom.

Mazie happens to be in the apartment and saves Joan from the danger. Masters and Goldman arrive, and see Marbridge emerging from Joan's room. Masters and Marbridge fight, and the latter is beaten and lead away by Goldman. Masters confronts his wife, but at the assurance of Mazie that Joan is innocent, he begs her to return to him and accept his love. One condition he imposes - that she must chose between her art and his love. Joan hesitates, and Goldman tries to sway her - but she goes to Masters - giving up her stage career. Goldman is disappointed, but promises to produce the play anyway.

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OCT 21 1924

Washington, D. C.

Register of Copyrights
Washington, D. C.

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Greater Than Marriage - 7 reels

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FULTON BRYLAWSKI

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OCT 25 1924

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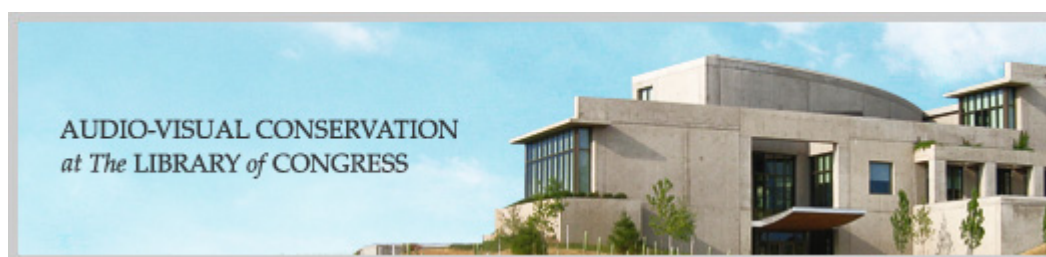
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